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NEW BULLETIN ISSUED  
FOR RABBIT RAISERS

Rabbit raising as a commercial enterprise and as a minor farm industry is explained by Frank G. Ashbrook and Charles E. Kellogg, of the Bureau of Biological Survey, in Farmers' Bulletin 1730-F, Rabbit Production, just issued by the U. S. Department of Agriculture. The future of the rabbit industry, the authors explain, will depend on its ability to produce rabbit meat and fur in commercial quantities. An increase in consumption of rabbit meat is foreseen, when the meat is produced in sufficient quantity and the public more generally comes to recognize its good qualities. The bulletin points out that rabbit fur is used more than any other kind.

Based on the Bureau's findings at the United States Rabbit Experiment Station, Fontana, Calif., the bulletin sets forth the essentials of rabbit raising and explains how to apply them. The publication tells the prospective rabbit raiser how to feed and house the rabbits, describing in detail the construction of rabbitries, hutches, nest boxes, and developing pens. It recommends management practices for all phases of the breeder's work from caring for suckling young to handling the dressed meat and fur for the market.

The Biological Survey, through the bulletin, suggests that 4-H clubs and others take up rabbit raising to provide an agreeable occupation for boys and girls and to reduce the meat bill of the suburban family. Beginners in rabbit raising, however, are warned against "get-rich-quick" schemes and against heavy investment in rabbit raising, before an accessible market for the meat has been developed.